

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 731

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Joseph A. Swann
upon being designated a Historical Treasure by
the Blount County Historical Museum.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Swann is one such estimable person who will be designated a Historical Treasure by the Blount County Historical Museum on April 14, 2012; and

WHEREAS, born on January 28, 1950, Mr. Swann is a native of Maryville and the son of the late Eugene Swann and Sue Morton Swann, who taught him the value of hard work and service to others; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Maryville High School in 1968, Mr. Swann matriculated to The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, earning his Bachelor of Science degree from that distinguished institution in 1972; and

WHEREAS, realizing that citizenship entails many responsibilities as well as privileges, he decided to run for public office and was elected to the Maryville City Council in 1997. As a member of that prestigious body, Mr. Swann earned the respect of his peers and constituents alike who deeply admire his unwavering dedication to excellence, his exemplary work ethic, and his steadfast commitment to understanding the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, having proven himself to be a thoughtful and dedicated leader, Joseph Swann was elected mayor of Maryville in 2003, and he ushered in a host of positive changes until the completion of his term in 2009; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a dedicated and conscientious public servant, Mr. Swann is also an astute businessman. He rendered sterling service as the president of

Cherokee Lumber Company from 1976 until 1995 and has skillfully overseen Workshop Tools, Inc. as its president since 1993; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Swann has evinced his deep devotion to preserving Tennessee's rich history for the benefit of future generations through his service as the president of the Blount County Historic Trust, the president of the East Tennessee Historical Society Board of Directors, a member of the Tennessee Historical Commission, and a member of the Tennessee Archeology Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Swann also finds time to lend his extraordinary abilities to many professional and civic institutions, including serving with distinction as the chairman of the Knox/Blount Transportation Planning Organization, Blount County Industrial Development Board, Tellico Reservoir Development Agency Board of Directors, Board of Directors for the Blount County Industrial Development Board, and Blount County Homecoming Committee; as a member of the Blount County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Blount National Bank Board of Directors, Advisory Board of Directors for 1st American National Bank, Board of Directors for BankFirst, Knoxville, and Advisory Board of Directors for BB&T Bank, Knoxville; and as a University of Tennessee Chancellor's Associate; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Swann was inducted into the Jefferson County Historical Society Hall of Fame and earned a place on the Maryville Daily Times Wall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, he is the proud owner of David Crockett's first rifle, and enjoys spending his free time fly fishing, conducting historical research, playing tennis, bird hunting, traveling, and composing his first book: *The Life & Times of David Crockett in East Tennessee 1786-1812*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Swann's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Swann is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Swann is most grateful for the love and support he shares with his wife, Rebecca Greene Swann, and their three sons: Tony, Will, and Ben. He is also the devoted brother of our esteemed colleague, Representative Arthur Swann, who skillfully represents the good people of Tennessee's Fourth House District; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joseph Swann is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Joseph A. Swann upon being designated a Historical Treasure by the Blount County Historical Museum, salute his vaulted level of success and personal excellence, and extend to him our best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.